

Hello everyone,

We are resending yesterday's newsletter with the Notice of CPO Order at its foot – apologies that it was not included first time around.

Latest news on the Twickenham Riverside development: response from the Twickenham Riverside Trust (TRT) to the Council's Compulsory Purchase Order of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens

This is to inform you on the latest developments regarding the Twickenham Riverside development.

Following its planning application for the redevelopment of the riverside, the Council recently formalised its intent to launch a compulsory purchase order (CPO) of land and new rights on the site – including of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens.

The public notice which has been put up on the site is reproduced below. Details of the CPO can be accessed on the Council's website [HERE](#).

The Twickenham Riverside Trust (TRT), which is responsible for the Diamond Jubilee Gardens under the 125 year lease granted to the TRT by the Council in 2014, has now issued a statement stating that it will be "... lodging a strong objection against the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) made on 21 October by the London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames Council, which is targeted primarily at the Diamond Jubilee Gardens". The TRT adds that 'the Trust will now be calling on the Secretary of State to reject the CPO on the Gardens.'

The Chair of the TRT said:

"We commissioned an independent assessment by the surveyors, Carter Jonas, of the quantity and quality of the public open space in the Council's development design compared to the existing space on Twickenham Riverside".

"We have been advised that the public open space provided in the CPO is not of equal advantage compared to what exists today. That means it would not benefit the public in terms of open space and the use of that land and would therefore be considered, under the relevant legislation, to be disadvantageous to the public compared to what exists today in the Gardens and on the Embankment. This is a fundamental point given the Trust's objectives".

"The basis of the Council's case is complex, and we will give more detail in the next ten days, when our objection has been submitted".

"The Trust must be guided throughout by the objects in its articles, which are «to preserve, protect and improve, for the benefit of the public, the riverside and its environs at Twickenham», and also by the purpose for which the Gardens were created and the lease granted to the Trust just seven years ago."

You can read the TRT statement in full on the TRT website by clicking [HERE](#).

If you wish to make representation or object to the CPO, as stated in the LBRuT notice, this must be sent to Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities in writing **before 23rd November 2021**, stating the title of the order, the grounds of objection and the objector's address and interests in the land.

Since we started writing this newsletter, a number of statements have - as you may have seen - been issued by the Council and by individual councillors challenging the Trust's position and seeking to cast doubt, unfairly – including at a more personal level – on the integrity of the Trust. It is disheartening and (even at this stage) disappointing to see the extent of misunderstandings and oversimplifications in some of these statements.

As ever, we welcome your comments.

Best wishes,

The RAG team
NOTICE OF CPO ORDER

